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The Urban District of Litherland.



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1940.



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For the Year 1940.

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

YEAR 1940.

Chairman of the Council:

*COUNCILLOR J. EATON, J.P.

Chairman of the Health Committee:

*COUNCILLOR A. DICK.

Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee:

*COUNCILLOR J. EATON.

Councillors:

*J. W. ANDERSON.	W. F. MCGEE.
*P. T. CLUSKEY.	F. OSBORNE.
J. DALEY.	*J. L. PARRY.
*A. DICK.	*A. RIMMER.
*J. EATON.	E. ROBINSON.

W. WALL.

*Members of the Health Committee.

Medical Officer of Health:

H. G. ST. M. REES,
M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Sanitary Inspector:

H. HARRISON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Council:

ALEX. J. HARRINGTON.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LITHERLAND.

TOWN HALL,

LITHERLAND,

24th November, 1941.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1940. In accordance with the suggestions of the Ministry of Health, the Report is somewhat condensed and only essentially important information and statistics are given.

The health of the District has remained very good in spite of the abnormal conditions and, like the country generally, we are able to report no major epidemic of infectious disease.

Much of the time of the Sanitary Inspector and myself has been taken up with A.R.P. duties. This, however, has not prevented the efficient functioning of the Department.

I have to express my thanks to the Staff of the Department for their help and to the members of the Health Committee for their readiness to listen to any suggestions for the betterment of health facilities in the district.

Yours obediently,

H. G. ST. M. REES,

Medical Officer of Health.

PARTICULARS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1940.

1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	818
Population—Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,987
Estimated, Mid 1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,530
No. of inhabited houses (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,464
„ „ „ on Rate Books, Dec., 1939	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,331
No. of persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·6
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£112,606
General Rate. 1940/41	...	...	...	...	...	...	13/6
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£447.

There is no special report to make on the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

UNEMPLOYMENT.—There are no separate figures at the Labour Exchange as to the extent of the unemployment in the district.

BIRTHS.

The number of children born in the district during 1940 was 407 ; 212 males and 195 females. This gives a Birth Rate of 20·8.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths during the year 1940 was 268 ; 144 males and 124 females. This gives a Death Rate of 13·7. 124 Deaths of Litherland residents occurred outside the district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year 30 children died who, at the time of their death, had not reached the age of one year. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 74 per 1,000 births.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

During the year, there were 8 deaths from Diphtheria, 3 deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever, and 2 deaths from Measles. This gives a Zymotic Death Rate of 0·66.

There were 2 deaths from Diarrhæal Diseases under the age of two years.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	For I.M. Rate		For B. Rate	
	M	F	M	F
TOTAL	211	194	212	195
Legitimate ..	204	186	205	187
Illegitimate ..	7	8	7	8

STILL BIRTHS.

	M	F	M	F
TOTAL			9	3
Legitimate ..			8	2
Illegitimate ..			1	1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	M	F
TOTAL	19	11
Legitimate ..	19	11
Illegitimate ..	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LITHERLAND URBAN DISTRICT, 1940.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>M.</i> 144	—	<i>F.</i> 124
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	—	...	—	...	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1	...	2
3.	Scarlet Fever	..	...	...	—	...	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	...	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	4	...	4
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	9	...	6
7.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	—
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	1	...	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	4	...	2
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	...	2
11.	Ac. polio-mpcl: and polio-enecph	...	...	...	—	...	—
12.	Ac. inf. enecph.	...	...	...	1	...	—
13.	Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph. (M), uterous (F)	...	...	...	—	...	1
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	4	...	2
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	...	2
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	8	...	8
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	...	1
18.	Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	...	...	...	4	...	8
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	27	...	27
20.	Other diseases of circ. system	...	...	...	2	...	1
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	15	...	10
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	14	...	12
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	2	...	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	4	...	—
25.	Diarrhœa, (under 2 years)	...	...	...	1	...	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	...	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	1	...	2
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	2	...	4
29.	Puer. and post-abort. sepsis	...	...	...	—	...	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	...	2
31.	Premature Birth,	...	...	...	2	...	4
32.	Con. mal· birth inj: infant dis:	...	...	...	8	...	3
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	2	...	—
34.	Road traffic acc.	...	...	...	1	...	—
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	8	...	4
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	17	...	13

S.D. 55.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the
Year 1940.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London. Adminis- trative County.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births—				
Live	14.6	16.0	15.7	13.7
Still	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44
Deaths—				
All Causes ...	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8
{ Typhoid and				
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01
Influenza... ..	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18
Smallpox... ..	...	...	...	...
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	55	61	54	50
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8
Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality— (excluding Abortion)				
Puerperal Infection (147)	0.52	} Not available.		
Others	1.64			
Total	2.16			
Notifications—				
Puerperal Fever... ..				3.34
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	11.96	13.90	9.73	13.30
				Including Puerperal Fever
Notifications—				
Enteric Fever	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.06
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	0.32	0.33	0.29	0.28
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.53	1.57	0.82
Whooping Cough ...	1.34	1.29	1.35	0.22
Diphtheria	1.16	1.29	1.21	0.61
Erysipelas	0.33	0.36	0.30	0.35
Smallpox... ..	0.00	...	...	...
Measles	10.24	9.23	9.99	1.78
Pneumonia	1.20	1.37	1.00	0.87

2.—General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

HOSPITALS.

There are no Hospitals in the district, but the Council have agreements with the County Borough of Bootle for infectious disease.

SMALLPOX.

Cases are removed under the above agreement to Liverpool, a retaining fee of £2 per 1,000 of population being paid.

The OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES are removed to the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals, no retaining fee being paid. The patients are not required to contribute towards the cost of treatment, the accommodation is not limited, therefore quite sufficient.

No action has been taken or advised with the object of securing that the Hospital accommodation is utilised to the best extent, or to shorten the period of stay of uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever. Cases have been treated at home where there have been facilities for isolation and suitable nursing.

No new methods have been adopted for the selection of individual cases for which admission to Hospitals is most imperative, nor any new decision as to the admission of cases of diseases such as Measles or Whooping Cough.

TUBERCULOSIS.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council, the Tuberculosis Dispensary being situated at "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool and Bootle Hospitals are available.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives on the County Council Register and practising in the district. There are no Health Visitors, Nurses or Midwives employed by or assisted by the Local Authority.

GENERAL MEDICAL. GENERAL SURGICAL.

These cases are removed to the General Hospitals of Liverpool, Bootle and Waterloo.

CHILDREN.

The above Hospitals are used, also the Liverpool Children's Hospital.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool Voluntary Hospitals.

There are no Poor Law or other Institutions in the district.

MATERNITY MORTALITY.

No special arrangements have been made for the investigation of maternal deaths, and cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia; this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious diseases the Motor Ambulances of the City of Liverpool and West Lancs. Infectious Disease Hospitals.

(b) For non-infectious cases, accident and maternity cases the Motor Ambulances of :—Bootle General Hospital, Waterloo General Hospital, Lancashire Public Assistance Committees, Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Subscribers) Ambulance, and Police, and are quite satisfactory.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

This work is administered by the Lancashire County Council. The Clinic is situated at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland, and provides for :—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Consultation and treatment.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

Dental, orthopædic and minor ailments.

The times of opening are as follows :—

Monday	...	...	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon ;	2 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday	...	...	10.0 a.m. to 12 noon ;	2 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday	...	...	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon ;	2 to 4 p.m.
Thursday	...	...	9.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m ;	2 to 4 p.m.
Friday	...	...	9.0 a.m. to 12 noon.	

There is no Day Nursery, Artificial Light Clinic; or Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Two District Nurses (Litherland District Nursing Association) visits on request of the Medical Practitioners by arrangement with the District Nursing Association. There is no financial obligation to the Council.

The Local Authority contributes to the Merseyside Hospitals (1d. in the £ Scheme) in connection with the Council employees, also to the Bootle General Hospital and the Waterloo General Hospital.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Health Posters have been displayed, and frequently changed, on the late Empire Marketing Boards.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Sputum.—These specimens are sent direct to Lancashire County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, by Medical Practitioners.

Blood, Throat Swabs, etc.—Sent direct by Medical Practitioners to Dr. H. D. Wright, Liverpool University, Bacteriological Department.

Milk.—Nine samples were submitted to Dr. H. D. Wright, Liverpool University.

3.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is obtained from the City of Liverpool, the chief source is Lake Vyrnwy in Wales. The water is excellent in quality, and there is a constant supply for all purposes. The number of houses supplied direct from the public mains is approximately 5,331. All the new houses have been provided with an efficient water supply. There has been no analysis during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The sewage (which is dealt with on the combined system) is discharged without treatment into the River Mersey.

A combined scheme for an area comprising portions of the County Borough of Bootle, Borough of Crosby, West Lancashire Rural District Council and Litherland Urban District Council has been suspended owing to the war.

During the year two 18 ins. overflow pipes, length 128 yds. have been fixed from the sewer in Akenside Street, Bootle.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams and no new works have been established to cause pollution.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1940 :—

Privy Middens—

No. of Middens	...	...	...	...	One.
No. of Closets attached to these Middens	...	...	...	...	One.
No. of Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	Nil.
No. of Houses with Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	5,753
No. of Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Fresh water closets of the washdown pedestal type are being provided for all new property.

SCAVENGING.

This work is carried out by the Sanitary Authority. Refuse is conveyed by motor vehicles to the Council's destructor, situated in Field Lane, Litherland. Orderly carts are used, and litter baskets are fixed at various parts of the district. The method adopted is quite satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1940.

No. of premises visited	...	...	...	...	1,614
Defects or Nuisances—					
No. discovered	...	...	...	...	2,347
No. abated	...	...	...	...	2,322
No. of Notices served—					
Informal	...	...	...	...	711
Statutory	...	...	...	...	21
Legal Proceedings—					

In eight instances legal proceedings were instituted.

OFFICES AND SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No statutory action has been necessary, extra sanitary accommodation, ventilation, and provision for heating has been provided where necessary.

CAMPING SITES.

There were no licences issued for camping sites during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools within the district.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

One hundred and thirty-three houses were disinfected during the year; 25 Council houses and 108 other houses, by means of spraying with Zaldecide and sulphur candles. Thirteen houses were disinfected for cockroaches, two for fleas and two for ants.

Advice is given to tenants by the Sanitary Inspector on taking up tenancy.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition and the water supply of the schools in the district is satisfactory. The schools have been disinfected after the holidays. There was no closing of the schools as a result of infection during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

There are no Common Lodging Houses; Houses let in Lodgings; Tents, Vans or Sheds, or Underground Sleeping Rooms in the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are three Tanneries and twelve Fish and Chip Potato premises in the district; these are inspected from time to time.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There is only one Private Slaughter-house in the district, and this is a Registered Slaughter-house.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured or sold.

CANAL BOATS.

Number inspected : None.

4.—Housing.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1940.

There were no houses built by the Local Authority, other Local Authorities, or by private enterprise during the year.

HOUSING APPLICATION FORMS, 1940.

Housing Application Forms for Council houses are continually being received, both from inside and outside the district.

5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milk Shops within the district are periodically inspected, and every effort is being made to produce clean healthy milk.

Nine samples were obtained from persons selling milk within the district, and sent to Dr. H. D. Wright for Bacteriological examination. "Tubercle Bacilli" was negative in all samples.

Veterinary inspections are carried out if any animal is suspected, or on a sample of milk showing Tubercle Bacilli.

No proceedings were instituted in respect of any samples obtained in the district.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The food exposed for sale or prepared in the district has been examined from time to time. The premises and shops have been kept in a cleanly state.

There are no Public Slaughter-houses, and only one Private Slaughter-house in the district, and this is Registered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

Fifteen samples of milk were submitted to the County Analyst; thirteen were reported "Genuine," and two adulterated, Two further samples were taken and reported "Genuine."

BAKEHOUSES.

There are nine Bakehouses in the district; these are in a sanitary condition, clean and well kept; minor repairs have been attended to.

6.—Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Six hundred and sixty-one cases of infectious diseases were notified, and one hundred and fourteen cases were removed to Hospital (see Tables of Notifiable Diseases).

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

Immunization against Diphtheria has been undertaken by the Local Authority; this is being done at the County Clinic, Linacre Road, Litherland, by the Medical Officer of Health on Friday afternoon during school time; 260 cases were completed during the year, each receiving three injections of T.A.F.

Immunization against Diphtheria commenced on 17th May, 1935; during this period 1,666 cases have been immunized; 244 notifications of diphtheria have been received, and of these, only 11 had previously been inoculated.

The number of deaths from diphtheria during the year was 8, none of which had been inoculated.

SCARLET FEVER.

No return cases were discovered during the year.

MALARIA.

There were no cases notified during the year.

CANCER.

There were 25 deaths from Cancer (12 males and 13 females) during the year, as against 41 in 1939. Private Practitioners and Patients make their own arrangements with the Liverpool City Hospitals for Radium Treatment if necessary.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been necessary in respect of Tuberculosis employees in the Milk Trade, or to Section 62, Public Health Act 1925, for removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

GENERAL.

There have been no Primary or Re-Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

It has not been necessary to close the schools during the year on account of sickness.

There have been no reports made under Article 17 (7) Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, which refers to cases of Plague, Cholera, Smallpox, or any serious outbreak of disease in the district.

INFLUENZA.

There was no severe Influenza Epidemic during the year.

There were no other diseases or cases of sickness which required special attention.

SCABIES.

The number of cases have steadily increased during the year, but up to the end of 1940 the Local Authority has had no specific powers.

Disinfection of fomites and houses has been carried out in all cases coming to our notice.

DISINFECTION.

There were 435 rooms in 154 houses disinfected during the year by means of Formaldehyde Vapour and Izal (Sprayed) after Infectious Disease, including Tuberculosis, 519 articles were disinfected at the Council's Disinfector (a Washington Lyons Type) situated in the Council's yard, Field Lane.

There is no arrangement for bathing verminous persons, etc.

Disinfestation has been carried out at one hundred and thirty-three houses.

Notifiable Diseases, 1940.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to Hospital, and deaths in Hospital during the year 1940 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total Cases at all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.												TOTAL DEATHS.	HOSPITAL		
		YEARS.													Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District.	
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over				
Smallpox...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Scarlet Fever ...	48		1	4	3	7	22	7	3	1	...	...	...	...	28	...	...
*Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	61	...	2	5	2	4	35	9	...	1	2	1	...	6	*60	6	...
Enteric Fever, including Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German Measles...	370	12	45	42	34	43	180	6	2	6	...	...	...	1	5	1	...
Whooping Cough ...	122	8	17	15	12	19	50	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	45	5	5	5	2	1	3	...	1	1	4	16	2	...	9	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia																	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	10	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	3	2	1	...	...	10	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria—																	
Contracted in this C'try	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abroad ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease notifiable in district, e.g.—																	
Chicken Pox ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	661	25	71	72	54	74	296	23	9	14	9	18	2	7	114	7	...

*A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever and were later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious, and were removed from the register.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

661 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year.

	CASES NOTIFIED.									
	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931
Smallpox... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	48	74	64	38	40	17	55	143	67	60
Diphtheria & Mem. Croup	61	87	37	23	14	45	38	23	83	51
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	1
Erysipelas	2	10	6	8	17	9	13	14	9	3
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Pyrexia	2	4	5	2	4	...	4	10	8	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	3	...	5	3	...	2	4	5	4
ACUTE PRIMARY PNEUMONIA INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA }	45	21	27	27	36	23	35	55	24	31
Anthrax ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephal Leth. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Measles	370	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	122	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	661	202	140	104	114	96	149	254	200	154

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL									
	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931
Smallpox... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	28	50	52	31	32	11	46	124	59	52
Diphtheria	60	103	49	36	21	45	38	22	83	50
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ typhoid Fever ... ..	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	2	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	2	1	3	...	4	8	3	2
Erysipelas ... ..	...	4	1	6	15	3	4	8	7	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephal Leth. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia	9	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	114	158	109	76	71	60	94	166	155	107

A number of cases were removed to hospital as Diphtheria and later certified as Tonsilitis or not infectious disease and were removed from the register.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940 (Local Register).

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0—1 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 ... ..	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	...
5—10	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
10—15 ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	1	4	1	...	...	1	...	...
20—25	4	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
25—35	5	4	...	...	1	1	...	...
35—45	7	2	...	1	3	...	...	...
45—55	3	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
55—65 ... ..	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...
65 and upwards ...	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
TOTALS ...	22	15	3	4	10	6	1	1
	37		7		16		2	

Death rate from Tuberculosis Respiratory System per 1000 = 0·76.

The rate of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was five to forty-four.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

No action has been taken or necessary in respect of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, employed in the Milk Trade, or for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

7.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The whole of this work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at 32 Linacre Road, Litherland.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

This work is carried out by the Lancashire County Council, there were no cases notified during the year.

I again wish to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Harrison, for his valued assistance, and to tender my thanks to the various members of the Council for considering advice given by me.

Your obedient Servant,

H. G. ST. M. REES,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Urban District Council of Litherland.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector.

1940.

24th November, 1941.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work executed in the Health Department during the past year, together with the particulars of the nuisances abated and improvements effected thereby.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT,
NOTICES SERVED, &c.

During the year 3,711 inspections and re-inspections were made in reference to complaints and housing.

It was necessary in numerous instances, however, to interview and write to the persons concerned, drawing their attention to notices which had not received prompt attention.

There were 711 Preliminary Notices and letters, etc., referring to nuisances and general dilapidations served, and in due course complied with.

In twenty-one instances Abatement Notices were served after which the work was completed to my satisfaction. Legal proceedings were taken in eight instances, the Bench imposed fines in each case; in one other case the work was done by the Local Authority in default.

INSPECTION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.—The food exposed for sale in the district has been inspected from time to time. Meat shops and food preparing places are inspected periodically. All animals slaughtered in the district are examined.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There is one “private” slaughter-house within the district, the number of cattle, calves, sheep and pigs slaughtered and inspected in the Urban District during the year is as follows :—

INSPECTION OF MEAT :—

Cattle		Calves		Sheep & Lambs		Pigs	
Killed	Inspec.	Killed	Inspec.	Killed	Inspec.	Killed	Inspec.
18	18	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	26	26

Country dressed pigs brought to shops and inspected.....12

Meat condemned as unfit for human food :—

Tuberculosis carcasses and parts ... 4 cwts. 3 qr. 11 lb.

Diseased, unsound and unwhole-

some meat (other than above) ... 6 cwts. 3 qr. 20 lb.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—Number of cowkeepers on register, 3; number of milk shops (other than cowkeepers), 9. 15 visits were made during the year. On the whole a fairly high standard of cleanliness is maintained, and the health of the cattle is satisfactory.

Five supplementary licenses were issued to retail :—

- (1) “Tuberculin Tested” Milk (two).
- (2) “Accredited” Milk (two).
- (3) “Pasteurised” Milk (one).

Also one Bottling Licence for “Accredited” Milk was issued.

MILK SAMPLES.—Nine samples were taken for the discovery of Tuberculosis among cattle; these were reported “negative” to the biological test. Fifteen samples of milk were also taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and thirteen were reported “genuine,” and two adulterated; two further samples were taken and reported “genuine.”

There are approximately 57 cows kept in the district.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.—Two visits were paid to places where Ice Cream was manufactured or stored,

FISH FRYING SHOPS.—Six visits were paid to fish frying shops which were maintained in a generally satisfactory condition.

ASHPITS TO BIN SYSTEM.—The approximate number of movable ashbins at present in use in the district is 5,753. There were no conversions during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—One hundred and thirty-three houses were disinfected during the year by means of spraying with Zaldecide, and sulphur candles. Clothing and bedding were taken to the Council’s Steam Disinfector. The whole of this work is carried out by the Council’s workmen.

FLEAS.—Two houses were infested with fleas, thirteen with cockroaches, and two with ants, and were treated with Zaldecide successfully.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919—86 rats have been destroyed during the year by rat catchers with dogs and ferrets.

In several cases the cause was due to defective drains, and in each case the drains were repaired and the possibility of further infestation removed.

CARAVANS.—There were no caravans in the district during the year.

SUPERVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—One hundred & eighty-seven visits were paid to houses where Infectious Diseases had occurred, and the necessary enquiries made into each case, also a sanitary survey was made of the premises, notices served where necessary for various defects, and work carried out.

Notices to strip and cleanse the walls and ceilings, where necessary, were served, and 42 re-visits were paid to ensure that the work was carried out. The schools have been thoroughly disinfected during the year. The head teachers have been notified regarding children attending the schools where infectious disease had occurred, also after disinfection.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT

Number of houses inspected	1416
Number of re-inspections to houses	2295
Number of visits and re-visits to factories and workshops ...	148
Number of visits to bakehouses	8
Number of visits to cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops ...	42
Number of preliminary notices served and letters, etc. ...	1322
Number of abatement notices served	21
Number of visits to offensive trades	2
Samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination	9
Samples of milk taken under Sale of Food and Drugs Act	15
Cases of infectious disease visited and reported upon ...	187
Number of houses fumigated	154
Number of rooms fumigated	435
Number of articles fumigated	519
Number of verminous houses disinfested	133
Number of visits to fish frying shops	6
Number of visits to butchers' shops and food preparing places	109
Number of visits to slaughter-house	15
Number of visits to schools	55
Number of visits under Rat and Mice Destruction Act ...	6
Number of visits to stable premises and garages	118
Number of visits to ice cream premises	2
Number of visits re Diphtheria Immunisation	125
Number of visits to Tents, Vans and Sheds	12
Rent books inspected	482

DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drains tested, repaired or renewed	271
Defective w.c. cisterns, pans, traps, water supply, etc. ...	352
Staircases repaired	9
Defective water supply to houses, etc., new taps, burst pipes, etc.	323
Defective floors in dwelling-houses, etc.	73
Offensive accumulations	41
New ashbins provided	76
Insanitary yard surfaces	111
Walls and chimneys pointed and repaired	143
Defective eaves, gutters, r.w. pipes, etc.	261
New back boilers, storage cisterns and cylinders provided or repaired	72
Defective skirting boards repaired	5
Plasterwork, limewashing and cleansing after infectious disease	132
Repairs to window sashes and frames, and lighting and ventilation improved	88
Leaky roofs (dwelling houses), etc.	171
New doors and repairs to doors	117
Animals or Fowls kept to be a nuisance	2
Defective wash boilers and structures	17
New sinks or other sanitary fittings	82
Defective fire ranges, jambs, and flues	62
Defective drainer boards	5

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HARRISON. M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

